

WILLIAM BALL

Biography from the Lehi Centennial History

William Ball, son of George and Harriet Noyes Ball, was born at Andover Hans, England, January 22, 1833. He received a common school education, and at the early age of 16 years left his home in the country and cast his lot in the city of London. Here he remained until he became 21 years old, when he joined the L. D. S. faith, and in the year 1855 married his first wife, Sarah Ann Markwick. On October 1st of the same year he set sail for America, arriving three weeks later in New York. His wife joined him there in February, 1856.

Leaving New York in the spring of 1857, he and his wife set out for Council Bluffs, joined Israel Evans' hand cart company, and crossed the plains, walking a distance of thirteen hundred miles. They arrived in Salt Lake on the 12th day of September, 1857, where they remained a few days for rest, then journeyed on to Lehi. Here he followed the occupation of farming.

In the year 1858 he was called to take charge of the toll bridge over Jordan River, where he remained for a number of years. In 1862 he married his second wife, Caroline Simmons, who came in the same company across the plains. From this union came six sons and two daughters. In 1863 he was called on a mission to Omaha to help a company of Saints cross the plains with ox teams. In 1877 he filled a mission to England, spending nearly three more years of his time for the great cause of truth.

He labored as a block teacher for a period of 40 years, and was also connected with the Sunday School 30 years. He was beloved by all who knew him for his genial disposition, always looking on the bright side of life.

He lived and died a faithful Latter-day Saint, being called to the Great Beyond April 10th, 1911. His wives were certainly true to him, working hand in hand with him, suffering the trials of subduing a new land. They were faithful to the cause of truth. His wife Sarah Ann labored as a teacher in the Sunday School, and held the office of treasurer of the Relief Society for many years. Caroline was called as one of the first Sunday School teachers when it was reorganized in 1866. In 1878 the first Primary Association was organized in Lehi, and Caroline, with 13 others, was set apart to preside over this organization, which office she held for 13 years. Since she discontinued that work, she has labored as a teacher in the Relief Society.